

Coastal Observation Technology System Project Summary - 2004

Project Name/Title: Organization and Outreach Structure for the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS)

Date Project Initiated: March 25, 2004

Recipient Institution: Funds will be directed to the Joint Institute for Marine Observations (JIMO) at Scripps Institution of Oceanography; JIMO will then allocate funding to all subawardees.

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Brief Project Summary: This project will provide the organizational framework for building capacity and partnerships among existing regional associations and agency end-users, and encouraging and enhancing collaboration among data collectors, data managers, and users of data and information. This will be accomplished through the establishment of an active user and provider working group network and the development of an organizational framework to support the successful management and operations of a Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS). The data provider and user work groups will be active participants in developing the governance, communication, implementation, data management, and product development structures that will support an operational SCCOOS. Implementation of this outreach and organizational development plan will link new and existing science, technology, and observational techniques with defined local and federal needs, and will enhance educational resources.

Accomplishments to Date: The coming fiscal year will mark the first year of funding for SCCOOS. Project leaders have begun to prepare job descriptions in anticipation of hiring an outreach coordinator when funds arrive, and have met with data providers at Scripps Institution of Oceanography and local county watershed management representatives in anticipation of determining personnel needs more specifically.

Current Year Objectives: In year one, to the project will develop a regional network of issue-driven data user and provider working groups in the areas of water quality and coastal hazards, to include erosion, sediment transport, coastal ecology, and living marine

resources. The groups will be tasked with defining management needs, building on existing collaborations, and articulating the benefits of such a system to science and society. The following tasks have been identified and remain year-one objectives:

1. Establish SCCOOS Outreach Implementation Team:
 - California Coastal Coalition
 - California Shore and Beach Preservation Association
 - Southern California Coastal Water Research Project
 - Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project
 - California Sea Grant
 - Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS)
2. Convene meeting of Implementation Team to design an outreach implementation strategy.
3. Develop and publish an official outreach implementation plan.
4. Identify stakeholders for Water Quality Data and Provider Working Group.
5. Identify stakeholders for Hazards Management and Shoreline Erosion Sediment Transport Data Provider User Group.
6. Identify stakeholders for Coastal Ecology and Living Marine Resources Data Provider User Group.
7. Develop subregional (county) key contacts for each working group issues area
8. Design, organize, and convene a series of five subregional data and provider user group workshops to be held in San Diego County, Orange County, Los Angeles County, Santa Barbara County, and Ventura County.
9. Produce draft document of results of each workshop.

Partners: Consortium members include the California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (CalPoly), the University of California campuses at Santa Barbara (UCSB), Los Angeles (UCLA), and Irvine (UCI), the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, University of Southern California, Cal State Los Angeles, the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP), Scripps Institution of Oceanography, the Universidad Autonoma Baja California (UABC), and Centro de Investigacion Cientifica y de Educacion Superior de Ensenada (CICESE).